

*Old Greenwich  
Presbyterian Church*

The First Presbyterian Church of Greenwich Township



**Last Sunday after Pentecost  
Christ the King Sunday**

**OUR CHURCH'S MISSION:**  
*To celebrate the love of God  
in all we say and do.*

## PRELUDE

## WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

## ADVENT WREATH-MAKING INVITATION

Elder Cathy Ahart

## INTROIT

*"Jesus Shall Reign"*

# 423, vs 1 &amp; 2

## \*CALL TO WORSHIP (Ps. 93) and OPENING PRAYER

Joshua Miller, Lay Reader

The Lord is ruler, robed in majesty; the Sovereign is robed, and is girded with strength.

**God has established the world; it shall never be moved;**

Your throne is established from of old; you are from everlasting.

**The floods have lifted up, O God, the floods have lifted up their voice; the floods lift up their roaring.**

More majestic than the thunder of mighty waters, more majestic than the waves of the sea, majestic on high is God!

**Your decrees are very sure; holiness befits your house, O God, forevermore.**

Together, let us pray to God our Sovereign:

**God of power and love, you raised Jesus from death to life, resplendent in glory to rule over all creation.**

**Free the world to rejoice in his peace, to abide in his justice, and to live in his life. Unite all of humankind in Christ our King, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen!**

## \*OPENING HYMNS

*"I Love You Lord"*

#2068

*"All Hail King Jesus"*

#2069

*"Give Thanks"*

#2036

## \*INVITATION TO CONFESSION

Let us remain standing and confess our sin to Jesus Christ, Ruler of our lives:

## \*PRAYER OF CONFESSION (in unison)

**Righteous God, you have crowned Jesus Christ Lord of all. We confess that we have not bowed down before him and are slow to acknowledge his rule. We give allegiance to the powers of this world and fail to be governed by your justice and love. In your mercy, forgive us. Raise us to acclaim Christ as ruler of all things, following in the Way of our Crucified King.**

\*SILENT CONFESSION with *"Amen"* played

## \*ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

## \*GLORIA PATRI

# 579

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost!**

**As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be:**

**World without end! Amen! Amen!**

## \*SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

Christ our King rules us, shepherds us, guides us, and gives to us a peace that passes all understanding. But we cannot keep this peace to ourselves! In love, let us pass the peace of Christ to one another.

Please sign and pass the black pew pads, found on the inside of each pew.

## TIME WITH THE YOUNG CHURCH

Elder Jennifer Miller

## PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION (in unison)

**Come, Holy Spirit, and open your Word to your people. Silence in us all the noise of this world, that we may hear only your voice, full of grace and truth. In Christ we pray, Amen.**

SCRIPTURE READING – John 18:33-37

Then Pilate entered the headquarters again, summoned Jesus, and asked him, "Are you the King of the Jews?" Jesus answered, "Do you ask this on your own, or did others tell you about me?" Pilate replied, "I am not a Jew, am I? Your own nation and the chief priests have handed you over to me. What have you done?" Jesus answered, "My kingdom is not from this world. If my kingdom were from this world, my followers would be fighting to keep me from being handed over to the Jews. But as it is, my kingdom is not from here." Pilate asked him, "So you are a king?" Jesus answered, "You say that I am a king. For this I was born, and for this I came into the world, to testify to the truth. Everyone who belongs to the truth listens to my voice."

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

ANTHEM

*"Christ is King"*

- R. Nagy

SCRIPTURE READING – Jeremiah 29:1, 4-14

These are the words of the letter that the prophet Jeremiah sent from Jerusalem to the remaining elders among the exiles, and to the priests, the prophets, and all the people, whom Nebuchadnezzar had taken into exile from Jerusalem to Babylon. Thus says the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel, to all the exiles whom I have sent into exile from Jerusalem to Babylon: Build houses and live in them; plant gardens and eat what they produce. Take wives and have sons and daughters; take wives for your sons, and give your daughters in marriage, that they may bear sons and daughters; multiply there, and do not decrease. But seek the welfare of the city where I have sent you into exile, and pray to the LORD on its behalf, for in its welfare you will find your welfare.

For thus says the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel: Do not let the prophets and the diviners who are among you deceive you, and do not listen to the dreams that they dream, for it is a lie that they are prophesying to you in my name; I did not send them, says the LORD. For thus says the LORD: Only when Babylon's seventy years are completed will I visit you, and I will fulfill to you my promise and bring you back to this place. For surely, I know the plans I have for you, says the LORD, plans for your welfare and not for harm, to give you a future with hope. Then when you call upon me and come and pray to me, I will hear you. When you search for me, you will find me; if you seek me with all your heart, I will let you find me, says the LORD, and I will restore your fortunes and gather you from all the nations and all the places where I have driven you, says the LORD, and I will bring you back to the place from which I sent you into exile.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

*"Seek the Welfare of the City"*

The Rev. Mary Beth Mardis-LeCroy

MUSICAL REFLECTION

Tom DiGiovanni

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE (with the Lord's Prayer)

**Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

OFFERING

Offertory

\*Doxology

# 592

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow! Praise God, all creatures here below!**

**Praise God above, ye heavenly host! Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost! Amen.**

\*Prayer of Dedication (in unison)

**God of hope, how often have we found ourselves in exile, separated from your presence. Restore us to you and let us find you when we seek you. As we give back to you, may our gifts be a light to this world. We pray this in Jesus' name: humble servant, ruler of all things. Amen.**

\*CLOSING HYMN

*"Give Thanks for Life"*

# 528

\*THE SENDING

\*BENEDICTION RESPONSE

*"Shine, Jesus, Shine"*

# 2173, vs. 3

## POSTLUDE

All are welcome to join for fellowship (coffee, tea, juice) in Memorial Hall following the worship service.



On **Sunday, November 20, 2022**, we celebrate **Last Sunday after Pentecost** and **Christ the King Sunday** at a 10 am worship service with preacher, **The Rev. Mary Beth Mardis-LeCroy**. The service will be streamed on our Facebook Live feed at "Old Greenwich Presbyterian Church." (You need a Facebook account to access our Facebook Live feed.)

To view past worship services, please visit our YouTube page at "Old Greenwich Presbyterian Church." You can also find our YouTube page services by visiting our website at [www.ogpc.org](http://www.ogpc.org), and scrolling down on the home page to "Watch a Service."

**CHURCH OFFICE HOURS:** The Pastor or the Administrative Ass't, or both, will be in the church Monday through Thursday, 9 am – 1 pm. Offices are closed on Fridays.

**USHER TEAM SCHEDULE:** November 20 - Team 4; November 27 - Team 1

### ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING - PART I

Notice is hereby given that the Annual Meeting - Part I of the Congregation and Religious Corporation of the First Presbyterian Church of Greenwich Township, in the County of Warren, will be held on **Sunday, December 4, 2022**, immediately following the 10 am Service of Worship. The purpose of this meeting is to hear the report of the Nominating Committee and to vote on said report. Nominees for the office of Elder and Deacon will be presented.

Attest:

Lisa Gray, Clerk of Session

The Rev. Mary Beth Mardis-LeCroy, Pastor – Moderator

**ADVENT WREATH-MAKING FOR ALL AGES!** ALL are welcome to join us for an all-church Advent wreath-making event on **today**, right after the worship service!



If you have a child or grandchild in middle or high school, tell them that there is some amazing **SHARED YOUTH MINISTRY** happening here at Old Greenwich!

All middle and high school kids (and their friends and neighbors!) are invited to join with College Hill Presbyterian Church (501 Brodhead St, Easton) every first and third Sunday. We meet **this evening**, from **6:00 - 7:30 pm** for dinner, prayer, and games!

If you have questions, or would like to carpool, please contact Pastor Mary Beth.

**PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN** Synod of the Northeast hosts a **ZOOM BOOK/BIBLE STUDY** on **Thursdays at noon**. They will begin an Advent Study on **December 1** and it would be a great time for you to join in. The book is "Advent in Plain Sight - A Devotion through Ten Objects," by The Rev. Jill Duffield. Themes are gates, tears, belts, trees, cloth, light, heart, gold, stars, and water (on the Baptism of Jesus week). If you don't want to buy the book, I send out the scriptures to read with the weekly Zoom invite. It's a friendly group, always looking to invite new women in! For Zoom invite, text 973-476-4720 your email or email address to "Gray, Lisa"

[Lisa\\_a\\_gray@outlook.com](mailto:Lisa_a_gray@outlook.com).

**WEDNESDAY EVENING ADVENT OFFERINGS:** All are welcome to join Pastor Mary Beth and Elder Lisa Kolterjahn for a three-week Advent study, where, using Susan Robb's *The Angels of Christmas: Hearing God's Voice in Advent*, we will discuss different angelic visits surrounding the birth of Jesus. Through these stories, we will explore God's presence in our lives today. The class will be held the first three Wednesdays of Advent **(Nov. 30, Dec. 7 and Dec. 14) from 7:30 to 8:30 pm.**

Then, on **Wednesday, December 21, at 7:30 pm**, all are welcome to join in a **Longest Night Worship Service.** a service where, through music and the Word, we will name that the seasons of Advent and Christmas can be difficult for many of us, especially for those of us who have experienced losses in our lives.

**OVER THE RIVER AND THROUGH THE WOODS: Joint Christmas Worship Services on December 25 AND January 1!** On the Sundays of the Christmas Season, our congregation will hold joint worship services with College Hill Presbyterian Church! Both services will be brief, family-friendly, and full of music. Join us on **Christmas Day here at Old Greenwich at 10 am.** Then, the following **Sunday, January 1, at 10:30 am** (note the time difference!), **come to College Hill Presbyterian Church** (501 Brodhead St, Easton PA). Both services will be led by Pastors Matt and Mary Beth Mardis-LeCroy. ALL are welcome to join as we celebrate Christmas -- together, in community!

**REJOICING RHYTHMS DRUMMING GROUP:** Do you like to make noise? Do you like to make a *joyful* noise? Are you between the ages of 3 and 103? If so, please consider joining in the drumming fun! Our *Rejoicing Rhythms* all-age drumming group meets **every third Wednesday of the month from 6:15 to 7 pm** in Memorial Hall. Please see the incredible Betsy Gaston for more information! Pass the word around!

**THE GREENWICH RINGERS:** Are you between the ages of 5 and 105? Would you like to make some music with the incredible Tom DiGiovanni? If so, consider being part of the *The Greenwich Ringers*!! This inter-generational group of amateur musicians will be ringing their chimes at rehearsals **every first and third Sunday.** All ages, all abilities (or none!!) welcome! Intrigued? Please see Tom or email him at [digtom@hotmail.com](mailto:digtom@hotmail.com).

**FLOWER COORDINATOR NEEDED:** The Deacons are looking for someone to act as Flower Coordinator. This is a volunteer position and anyone from the congregation is welcome to step up. It involves receiving floral dedications and payments and disseminating information to the church Administrative Assistant and the florist so that arrangements are ordered and info is printed in the bulletin. The coordinator also orders Easter flowers and Christmas poinsettias. If you are interested, please contact Walt Campbell, Deacon Moderator, at [campbellw47@yahoo.com](mailto:campbellw47@yahoo.com), or speak to any Deacon.

**SAVE THE DATE!** The **ANNUAL IRON PIGS BASEBALL OUTING** will happen again on **Saturday, July 29, 2023, at 6:35 pm.** A block of 50 seats has been reserved. This year (2022) we had 49 tix purchased. There are three changes: (1) We will be on the Club level (which will have access to air conditioning) instead of the field level of previous outings; (2) the price of a ticket will be \$17/person (children two and under - free); (3) the Pigs will be playing against the **Syracuse Mets** instead of the Scranton Wilkes-Barre Rail Riders. More details to follow in the coming year. Any questions, please contact Anita Campbell or Walt Campbell at 908-479-4737 (landline) or email them at [souptime2222@gmail.com](mailto:souptime2222@gmail.com) or [campbellw47@yahoo.com](mailto:campbellw47@yahoo.com).

The Church Care & Kinship Committee (formerly Congregational Life and Membership committees) is excited to organize a trip to the **SIGHT & SOUND THEATRE** in Lancaster, PA on **Saturday, December 2, 2023!** *The Miracle of Christmas* (live on stage) is returning after a five-year hiatus and is extremely popular. Travel back in time to Bethlehem, as the original Christmas story unfolds all around you. Journey alongside Mary and Joseph, a flock of surprised shepherds, and three wise men, along with their camels! There may be no room at the inn, but God has a lowly stable prepared as the angels announce the coming of the Messiah!

Tickets sell out quickly, so we must book our tickets in January 2023. Adult tickets are appr. \$90 and children's about \$40. We will try to carpool to save money. If we have a large turnout, we may need to rent a bus which would be an additional charge. If interested, please sign up on sheet posted in Memorial Hall or contact Barb Frinzi in person, by email ([frinzi3@msn.com](mailto:frinzi3@msn.com)) or cell phone (908-343-1144). This will be a great show for all ages!

**SUPPORT OGPC WHILE SHOPPING ON AMAZON!** OGPC is registered as an Amazon Smile non-profit organization and when you shop through the Amazon smile portal linked below, 0.5% of the sale is donated to OGPC. Use the link below to connect to Old Greenwich using the portal or go to [www.amazon.com](http://www.amazon.com) and search for Old Greenwich (make sure you select the one in New Jersey!). Each time you shop using the [www.smile.amazon.com](http://www.smile.amazon.com) portal, a portion of the sale is donated to OGPC. Do your Amazon shopping and support

OGPC at the same time - what could be better? If you have any questions, don't hesitate to contact Katie Rienzo at [khrienzo@yahoo.com](mailto:khrienzo@yahoo.com) <https://smile.amazon.com/ch22-1613653>

**SUNDAY FLORAL DEDICATIONS:** The cost to purchase arrangements for the communion table is **\$20 each**. You may sign up for dedicated flower arrangements to honor or remember loved ones. Please contact Trish Millon via cell: 908-319-5061 or email: [trishbrad00@aol.com](mailto:trishbrad00@aol.com) to place an order and arrange dedication. Please place order *only one to two weeks prior* to the date which you would like the dedication to appear in the bulletin. (Orders placed months ahead leaves too much chance they will get lost or forgotten!)

**HOME COMMUNION:** If you would like to receive home communion or know of someone who would, please contact Deacon Moderator, Walt Campbell, at [Campbellw47@yahoo.com](mailto:Campbellw47@yahoo.com) or Pastor Mary Beth at [pastormarybeth@gmail.com](mailto:pastormarybeth@gmail.com)

**DAILY DEVOTIONALS:** The Worship/Music/Spirituality Committee continues to coordinate daily devotionals as they have become such a positive message to us during this pandemic. We invite anyone from the congregation to share their own inspiring devotional. Please send directly to Anita Campbell at [souptime2222@gmail.com](mailto:souptime2222@gmail.com)

**NAMES ON THE PRAYER LIST** will remain for four weeks. The first week, the names will be **bolded**. The last week, the names will be italicized. If you would like a name to remain longer or would like a name added, please email the church office. If you do not have internet access, please call the office with your request.

Please pray for: **Debbie Mowrey's sister, Brenda, who has a wide range of health issues**; continued prayers for Bob Tintle, now home, and Sue; Dottie Davidson; healing for Edith Slamp, who fell on 10/27, and prayers for Betsy and Bruce Gaston; *friends of the Jiorles, the family of Bill Runco, who died recently; friends of Kathleen Scala, Kathy & Michael Nazzaro and family, who recently lost their son and brother, Thomas*; Gretchen Alencewicz, as she recovers from recent surgery; the family of Bill Miller; brother-in-law of Kathleen Scala, Marc Cottone, who is having multiple surgeries on his ankle and foot; Bob & Trudy Frey; Stephen Toman, Christine Lee's boyfriend's uncle, and his sister, Nancy Hetman; Skip Adams' son, Zachary; the citizens of Ukraine; Pastor Mary Beth's parents and family; Bob and Trudy Frey's friends, Nancy Hummer and Ian Arnot; Debbie Mowrey; our homebound members; those serving in our Armed Forces; those affected by the Corona virus and their families around the world; all experiencing the effects of extreme weather conditions around the world

**Visit our Church's Web Site at: [www.ogpc.org](http://www.ogpc.org)**

Church Office e-mail address: [oldgreenwich@ogpc.org](mailto:oldgreenwich@ogpc.org)

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Harry & Joan Pursel, Sextons	Tom DiGiovanni, Music Director /Organist
Betsy Gaston, Ass't Music Dir./Choir Director	Lisa Gray, Clerk of Session
Katie Rienzo, Treasurer and Financial Secretary	Francis Rienzo, Media/Comm. Dir
	Tom DiGiovanni, Leader, <i>Sonshine Singers</i>